



**Executive Board**

**Academic Affairs**

To Chair FSR FEB, FdR, FGw, FMg, AMC,  
ACTA, FNWI, CSR,

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*By E-Mail*

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Contact person	Enclosed	Our reference
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Email		
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Subject		
Mental health		

Dear Chair,

Thank you very much for your letter of 4 May 2017 concerning the mental health of students at our university. The Executive Board subscribes to your statement that a good state of mental health is of crucial importance to student success and strongly contributes to the quality of life of students. We acknowledge the central concerns you put forward and we thank you for the useful recommendations that are formulated.

One recommendation concerns the establishment of mental health as a primary objective of a member of the Executive Board. As of this moment, Rector Magnificus Prof. Maex will include this topic in her portfolio. As for the other recommendations, the Executive Board believes it is important to investigate their feasibility.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, our Rector Magnificus has discussed the issues at hand with the CSR, psychologist Esther Boucher, primary care doctor Peter Vonk and professor Reinout Wiers. In this meeting, several of the issues you address in your letter have been discussed and identified. Also, the need for an integral health policy, both for students and PhD students, is expressed. Currently, Academic Affairs and Student Services are initiating a joint project to develop such integral health policy. As a start of this project, on 6 July from 9-11 a meeting is organized for all stakeholders involved. You are warmly invited to attend this meeting, as it is crucial to develop a health policy in close cooperation with all relevant parties at UvA.

Yours sincerely,  
The Executive Board

Prof. Geert T.M. ten Dam  
President